

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1-11 (Canceled)

12. (New) A method for manufacturing knitted articles for forming items of clothing without lateral seams, with a circular knitting machine having needle cylinder and needles, comprising a step for forming at least one pouch-shaped region in which part of the needles or all the needles that belong to at least one sector of the needle cylinder are moved to knit at at least one feed of the machine by actuating the needle cylinder of the machine with an alternating rotary motion about an axis thereof and with an extent of oscillation that is sufficient to make transiting, at said at least one feed, all the needles of said at least one sector that are moved for knitting at said at least one feed, in order to form, with the needles that belong to said at least one sector and are moved for knitting, a number of rows of knitting in excess with respect to a number of rows of knitting formed by the needles that are contiguous to said at least one sector.

13. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein during said step for forming at least one pouch-shaped region, rows of knitting are also formed by making all or part of the needles distributed along the entire circumferential extension of the needle cylinder knit at said at least one feed.

14. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein during said step for forming at least one pouch-shaped region a number of needles that belong to said at least one sector and are moved to knit at a corresponding feed is increased gradually.

15. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein during said step for forming at least one pouch-shaped region a number of needles that belong to said at least one sector and are moved to knit at a corresponding feed is decreased gradually.

16. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein during said step for forming at least one pouch-shaped region a number of needles that belong to said at least one sector and are moved so as to knit at a corresponding feed

is first increased gradually and then decreased gradually.

17. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein during said step for forming at least one pouch-shaped region a number of needles that belong to said at least one sector and are moved to knit at a corresponding feed is first 5 decreased gradually and then increased gradually.

18. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein during said step for forming at least one pouch-shaped region a number of needles that belong to said at least one sector and are moved to knit at a corresponding feed is first decreased gradually, retaining the last formed loop of knitting in a hook of 10 the needles that are gradually excluded from knitting, and is then increased gradually by resuming knitting also with needles previously gradually excluded from knitting that had retained in their hook the last formed loop of knitting.

19. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein before said step for 15 forming at least one pouch-shaped region, a step for forming at least one tubular portion of knitting is performed by moving so as to knit, at at least one feed or drop of the machine, all the needles or part of the needles of the needle cylinder distributed along the entire circumferential extension of the needle cylinder, and the needle cylinder is actuated with a continuous rotary 20 motion about its own axis.

20. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein after said step for forming at least one pouch-shaped region, a step for forming at least one tubular portion of knitting is performed by moving so as to knit, at at least one feed or drop of the machine, all the needles or part of the needles of the needle cylinder distributed along the entire circumferential extension of the needle cylinder, and the needle cylinder is actuated with a continuous rotary motion 25 about its own axis.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein at least part of said tubular portion of knitting is produced as a double folded border.

30 22. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said step for forming at

least one pouch-like region comprises the simultaneous production of at least two pouch-like regions, in which needles belonging to at least two sectors of the needle cylinder that are angularly spaced from each other around the axis of the needle cylinder are moved so as to knit at a different feed for each one of said sectors and the needle cylinder is actuated with an alternating rotary motion about its own axis with an oscillation extent that produces the transit, in front of the corresponding feed, of all the needles of the correlated sector that are moved so as to knit in order to form, with the needles that belong to said at least two sectors and are moved so as to knit at the corresponding feeds, rows of knitting in excess with respect to the rows of knitting formed, during said step for forming the pouch-like regions, by the needles that are contiguous to said at least two sectors.